United Nations A/70/428–S/2015/795

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
14 October 2015

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventieth session
Agenda item 108
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Seventieth year

Letter dated 13 October 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the joint statement of the member States of the Collective Security Treaty Organization on measures to eliminate international terrorism, including the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, and the approach to international cooperation in efforts to combat terrorism and religious extremism, which was delivered at the first meeting of the Sixth Committee of the seventieth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 108 on Monday, 12 October 2015.

I request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 108, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Zohrab **Mnatsakanyan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

15-18021 (E) 201015 201015

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 13 October 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Joint statement of the member States of the Collective Security Treaty Organization on measures to eliminate international terrorism, including the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, and the approach to international cooperation in efforts to combat terrorism and religious extremism

We the member States of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) express our deep concern at the sharp increase in the activities of terrorist and extremist groups, which pose a direct threat to international peace and security.

We are convinced that the terrorist threat can be effectively combated solely on the basis of international law and with the United Nations playing a central and coordinating role. We believe that a multifaceted approach to solving the problem of terrorism, as consolidated in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, is needed more than ever.

We call upon all States to comply strictly with the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and the General Assembly on counter-terrorism. We place particular emphasis on the task of opposing financial, ideological and training support for terrorism.

In this connection, we draw attention to recent initiatives of the heads of State of CSTO member countries relating, among other things, to the coordination of the action of all forces opposed to the "Islamic State" (IS) and other terrorist formations; agreement on a relevant Security Council resolution concerning the establishment of a United Nations coalition against terror; the unification of mechanisms for the prosecution of individuals involved in terrorist or extremist activities; the drawing up of a consolidated list of terrorist organizations; and the eradication of the root causes of terrorism and extremism.

Terrorism cannot and must not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group. We call on all States to join forces to repel and prevent terrorist threats. Accordingly, we firmly condemn any attempts to politicize the fight against terrorism or to apply a double standard, including for the purpose of interfering, under the banner of counter-terrorism, in the internal affairs of sovereign States and destabilizing Governments deemed to be "undesirable".

We consider that under the present circumstances the top priority is to oppose the leading international terrorist organizations, first and foremost, the Islamic State. We advocate coordination on issues relating to the fight against the Islamic State, above all among all the States that are engaged in that fight.

At this juncture, the task of combating the phenomenon of "foreign terrorist fighters" has taken on particular relevance. Overcoming this very dangerous aspect of the global terrorist threat calls for the implementation by all States of the agreed set of measures envisaged in the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, in particular, resolution 2178 (2014); the exchange of information between the

competent authorities on identification of foreign terrorist fighters and their movements; improving border controls; preventing the radicalization and recruitment of foreign terrorist fighters; opposing the provision of financing and assistance for the activities of foreign terrorist fighters; instituting more severe penalties for charges brought against foreign terrorist fighters; and expanding international cooperation in this sphere.

We express our readiness to collaborate constructively with all interested States and international organizations, and above all the United Nations, in combating terrorism and other criminal challenges and threats to security.